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Bangalore Mirror ON SATURDAY

TEMP Max 26 | Min 20 | Humidity 82% Generally cloudy sky with Light rain Sensex 81,332 | Nifty 24,834 | Gold 69,820 | Silver 84,250 | Dollar 83.72 | Euro 90.88 | GBP 107.67

CITY PAGE 2

HAIL HERITAGE

Greater Bengaluru Authority places emphasis on preservation of heritage buildings, enhanced urban planning and retaining city's character

WIRED UP

Citizens raise concern over exposed electrical wires, claim BESCOM not conducting inspections to prevent potential fatalities

CITY PAGE 3

Between April 2023 and March 2024, the Bengaluru circle recorded 743 forest encroachment cases as against 140 cases last year; experts point to lack of action against errant officials

NOT OUT OF THE WOODS YET

Rules in Karnataka Forest Act specify officials must prevent unauthorised occupation of land

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ENCROACHMENT PREDICAMENT

Bengaluru and its surrounding districts have witnessed a multifold increase in forest encroachment cases this year.

According to data from the Karnataka Forest Department (KFD), between April 2023 and March 2024, the Bengaluru circle recorded 743 cases, against 140 cases las year. These cases were recorded from Bengaluru Rural, Bengaluru Urban, Ramanagara, Kolar, Chikkaballapur, and Bannerghatta National Park divisions. In 2021-22, only 69 encroachment cases were reported.

In 2020-21 and 2019-20, the number of encroachment cases from the Bengaluru Circle was 133 and 83, respectively. Across the state, as many as 1,385 forest encroachment cases have been reported this year.

All talk, no action

Environmentalists say such a large number of fresh encroachment cases from the Bengaluru Circle are a matter of concern. While tall promises have been made by the authorities over the last few months, not much has changed on the ground. Higher rank officials in the department are still being promoted, despite grave dereliction of duty.

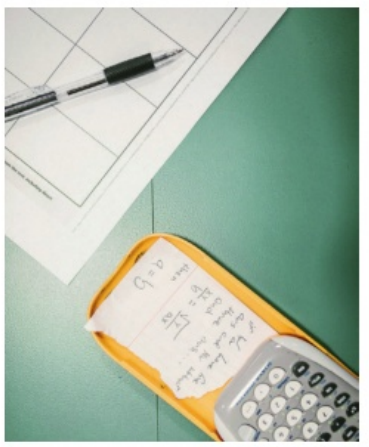
The primary duty of the forest guard concerned and section forester is to prevent unauthorised occupation of forest land and notify the Assistant Conservator of Forest, say the activists. The ACF is expected to follow this with a notice to the person occupying the unauthorised land, asking them to appear with relevant documents within 15 days of receipt of the notice. After processing it, the ACF may pass orders evicting the person from the land and also ordering the removal of any structure, building, or any other construction taken up by the person. If the notice is not obeyed, the divisional forest officer or the ACF should hold an inquiry into the facts of the case and may use force for eviction.

"These rules are mentioned in the Karnataka Forest Act, 1963. It highlights that circle heads, Deputy Conservator of Forests Officers (DCFOs),

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 >>

> **Circle heads, Deputy Conservator of Forests Officers (DCFOs), Assistant Conservators of Forest (ACFs), and Range Forest Officers (RFOs) should be held accountable in case of encroachment. These are the officials that play major roles in forest encroachment and evictions** — Environmentalists

WORK: ABSENT; SALARY: PRESENT



RTI application reveals agency was given full pay though some pharmacists supplied for ESI hospitals, diagnostic centres were AWOL

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Something does not add up in the payments made to a staffing agency by the Employees State Insurance Scheme Medical Services (ESISMS). The ESISMS officials paid an outsourcing agency that provided 304 pharmacists to work at ESI hospitals, diagnostic centres and dispensaries. It seems the payment was made without verifying the attendance report prepared by the hospitals, diagnostic centres and dispensaries, which when taken into consideration points to a misappropriation of around Rs 20 lakh in a year.

According to the documents available with Bangalore Mirror, the ESISMS selected a company named Feature Planet Private Ltd to supply pharmacists for ESI centres across the state. The Director of Directorate of ESISMS had issued a circular on

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 >>

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Military court drama

Immerse yourself in a play that will shake your soul and make you question your belief system. Directed by Aashish Rana and written by Swadesh Deepak, 'Court Martial' is a play that tells the story of a highly obedient soldier who is found on the wrong side of the law. His actions have shocked the regiment, and the army has ordered a court martial to investigate the actions of this soldier. **Where: TheatreNama Studios, Koramangala; When: July 27 and 28**

02 Zine-making workshop

Colours, shapes, and textures influence our emotions in very strange ways. Engage in a 'Zine Making' workshop with Keerthana Srinivasan, aka Keena, an author and illustrator of a silent picture book, a memoir for adults. In the session, you will be exploring relationships using abstract collage. You will also learn the visual vocabulary to express your emotions through collage.
Where: Atta Galatta, Indiranagar;
When: July 28, 10 am

03 Art and decor fair

hop for hosieries, dress materials, bed linen, artefacts, and household furniture of different varieties, including porcelain products, that are on display at 'Meena Bazaar,' a 10-day display and sale of artefacts and household materials with more than 100 varieties of stalls. Lifestyle influencer Navmita Jyoti inaugurated the event, where exotic artefacts from rural artisans all over the country are available under one roof.
Where: Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath
When: Until August 4, 11 am to 8 pm

Greater Bengaluru Authority to safeguard B'luru's legacy

Bill emphasises preserving heritage buildings, sites, areas of significance to ensure they remain unharmed by new developments in city

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File photo showing a 150 year old government museum in B'luru

The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) bill has placed a strong emphasis on the protection of heritage buildings within the city. Currently, the bill is under review by a House panel. It outlines that the responsible corporations will be tasked with preserving heritage buildings, sites, and areas of historical, architectural, cultural, environmental, or ecological significance, ensuring they are not negatively impacted by new developments within the Greater Bengaluru Area.

The bill also focuses on enhancing urban planning and the city's built character, including landscape, and provides guidelines for the demolition, protection, conservation, rebuilding, and modification of buildings designated as heritage sites.

Rules & incentives

The bill mandates that the corporations, in consultation with the GBA, issue regulations or bye-laws for implementing these guidelines, adhering to orders, rules, and regulations set forth by the central or state government. The commissioner is required to compile and update a list of heritage sites, including buildings, precincts, and natural features, based on advice from the Heritage Conservation Committee. Public objections and suggestions will be considered before finalising this list. Once a building or site is listed, it includes the entire property, its boundaries, and all associated structures and artefacts. "To encourage the preservation of heritage buildings, the corporation may offer incentives to their owners or occupiers. These incentives could include financial support, property tax exemptions, and other measures deemed necessary to maintain the buildings' heritage status. However, if the heritage value of a building is compromised due to poor maintenance, these incentives may be revoked and penalties may be applied," it said.

Formation of a committee

A Heritage Conservation Committee, established by the state government, will be responsible for framing regulations related to the protection and maintenance of heritage sites. "The committee will consist of various members, including the chief commissioner, chief town planner of the GBA, and representatives from city corporations, public works, architecture, engineering, and environmental fields. It will also have the authority to co-opt additional members with relevant experience. The chairperson and non-official members of the committee will serve a three-year term. The committee will undertake tasks such as identifying and listing heritage buildings, evaluating repair costs, approving special designs, and framing regulations for conservation. The Committee will also conduct awareness programmes, including educational initiatives and heritage-related events," the bill stated.

Heritage buildings and precincts will be graded into categories as outlined in Schedule II. "Any modifications or repairs that might alter the character of these buildings or sites must adhere to the guidelines specified in Schedule II and relevant regulations." The bill further stated that ownership of listed heritage buildings is not affected by their designation; such buildings must be used in accordance with the prescribed conditions based on their grade. "There are no restrictions on their sale or purchase, nor is permission required from city corporations or the Heritage Conservation Committee. However, the city corporations will have the first right of refusal for the sale of any listed heritage building," it said.

> **"To encourage preservation of heritage buildings, corporation may offer incentives to their owners or occupiers on certain conditions**
> – GBA bill

Archish Fertility & IVF opens new branch at HSR Layout

Archish Fertility & IVF has inaugurated its new facility at the VV Complex at HSR Layout. Rishina Bansal, the Scientific Director and Co-Founder of Archish Fertility & IVF, emphasised the increasing awareness of fertility options, which has led to a surge in women choosing egg freezing to control their parenthood timeline. Noting the growing number of couples opting for fertility preservation, she said, "The clinic takes pride in being a part of their journey and embodying the message: Let us be your ray of hope."

In India, infertility is emerging as a significant health crisis due to various factors such as irregular lifestyles, obesity, delayed parenthood, excessive consumption of junk food, alcohol, and smoking. Although numerous fertility treatment options are available to assist fertility-challenged couples in having their biological child, many are unaware of these possibilities.

The clinic also plays a vital role in providing a supportive environment for treating male infertility in Bengaluru through its newly established andrology wing-Andro 360. Dr Madhu Patil, the Clinical Head & Fertility Consultant at the centre, stated that the clinic not only aims to offer couples the most advanced treatments but also strives to raise awareness about fertility testing at a younger age and the various options available to them. Furthermore, she emphasised that adopting a holistic approach through healthy eating habits, regular exercise, and increased awareness of hormonal health can significantly contribute to maintaining better reproductive health. **— BMB**

SBI's revamped next-generation 'Contact Centre'

The country's largest bank, the State Bank of India (SBI), recently revamped its next-gen 'Contact Centre' setup. SBI customers can now avail of over 30+ banking services from contact centres, like account-related services, ATM card and cheque book services, emergency services (like ATM card or digital channel blocking), digital product help and support, product information, etc. These services are available in 12 languages, 24/7, from the comfort of their homes by dialling new 'Easy to Remember' toll-free numbers: 1800-1234 or 1800-2100.

Lurking danger: Stay clear of tangled mess

Bengaluru's electrical, broadband cables are in disarray; citizens fear electrocution, short circuits, fatal accidents

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Residents across Bangalore have raised concerns about the number of short circuits and fatalities caused by exposed electrical wires. Despite these concerns, they stated that the Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (BESCOM) has failed to conduct regular inspections to maintain and check electrical wires in the city. This situation is worsened by the entanglement of electric wires and broadband cables hanging from electric poles or lying on the ground, making it difficult for citizens to distinguish between the two.

Numerous complaints have been filed regarding these low-hanging and tangled wires, including electrical cables and broadband lines. However, these grievances have been overlooked by the relevant authorities, with some complaints remaining unaddressed for over six months.

The residents pointed out that they are worried about the potential dangers posed by these wires. The tangled mess of cables not only poses a risk of electrocution but also creates obstructions for everyone, leading to a safety hazard. Tushar Chauhan, a resident of Harlur Road, said, "I feel unsafe walking on the footpaths or driving on roads where the cables are hanging so low. Despite filing complaints, the wires are still dangling, and it's hard to tell if they are broadband cables or electric wires. Although broadband cables don't pose a risk of electrocution, they can obstruct pedestrians or distract motorists, leading to severe injuries and accidents."

Exposed electrical wires on the city streets (file photo)

> **Open wires pose a significant risk of electrocution. Immediate action must be taken to prioritise these issues & prevent potential dangers**
>
> –Vishnu Reddy, BNP zonal president

The situation is particularly dangerous during the monsoons, when the risk of electrocution from exposed wires increases. Vishnu Reddy, Zonal President of the Bengaluru NavaNirmana Party (BNP) in Mahadevapura, said, "Open wires pose a significant risk of electrocution, especially during the rainy season. It is unacceptable that officials are ignoring these complaints. Immediate action must be taken to prioritise these issues and prevent potential dangers. In addition, all unauthorised broadband cables should be removed, and regular inspections should be conducted to ensure public safety."

3 special teams formed to catch PG murder suspect

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The Bengaluru Police Commissioner, B Dayananda, announced on Friday that three special teams have been formed to apprehend the accused in the brutal murder of 24-year-old Kriti Kumari. According to sources, the teams have been dispatched to Bhopal and other locations in Madhya Pradesh in pursuit of the suspect, identified as Abhishek.

The shocking CCTV footage of the murder, which took place on Tuesday in the victim's Paying Guest (PG) hostel in Koramangala, has emerged, revealing the brutality of the attack and the disturbing apathy of the hostel mates.

Investigations have revealed that Abhishek, a native of Bhopal, was in a relationship with Kriti's friend and colleague from Maharashtra. He frequently visited the PG and travelled from Bhopal to Bengaluru to meet his girlfriend. However, their relationship deteriorated, and the victim and her friends began to avoid him. Kriti even helped her friend move to a new PG, and they both stopped answering his calls. Enraged by this, Abhishek came to Kriti's PG on Tuesday night and committed the heinous crime.

The CCTV footage captures the chilling sequence of events: "Abhishek is walking towards Kriti's room holding a plastic bag in his hand. He knocks on the door and enters the room. Soon after, he is seen dragging her out as Kriti struggles to get out of his clutches. As she struggled to avoid being stabbed, he managed to stab her repeatedly. Even after Kriti collapses, he doesn't stop. Upon seeing her still breathing, he tries to slit her throat again before running away."

The footage also shows Kriti's desperate attempts to seek help from her hostel mates, who slowly open their doors but fail to come to her aid. They are seen making phone calls and talking among themselves as Kriti, severely bleeding, manages to sit up for a short time before finally collapsing.

Shop robbery: Vendor left high & dry as police investigation stalls

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What was a fine day for all turned into a nightmare for this milk vendor in Bengaluru. Sridhar S, a milk vendor on Palani Mudaliar Street in Halasuru, never expected his shop to become a target for thieves, who walked away with around Rs 30,000 kept in the shop. Sridhar makes both ends meet with the commission he earns by selling Nandini milk to the residents on Palani Mudaliar Road and Car Street.

The CCTV footage obtained from a nearby building indicates two people coming on a scooter at 2:38 am on July 19. It shows one of them going up to the shutter of Sridhar's shop and returning with something. "I was shocked to see the shutter of the shop open in the morning on July 19 when I came to the shop. I found the cash, kept for making payments to the Nandini Dairy official for supplying milk, missing," said Sridhar.

Milk vendor Sridhar S

He claimed that it was the first time that he faced such a situation in his life. "I visited Halasuru Police Station on July 19 and informed a few police constables about the theft. They then visited my shop, but they did not help me recover my money. I requested that they register a case. They asked me to make a written complaint. I could not do so since I am illiterate. No police constable came forward to write a complaint on my behalf," he rued.

It is quite amusing and shocking to know that the police did not ask Sridhar to come to the police station either to take his complaint or inform him about the progress of the investigation, even one week after the theft took place. Disappointed with their apathy, Sridhar has no other option than to approach private financiers for a loan. "I took the loan from private financiers to make payments to Nandini Milk Dairy. Milk will not be supplied to me if I fail to make payments on time," he said, adding that he had already handed over the CCTV footage to the police last week.

Meanwhile, Halasuru Police Inspector Manjunath said that he was not aware of this incident. "I request that Sridhar meet me at the police station on Friday. I will look into the matter and do the needful after obtaining details from him," the inspector said.

ADVERTORIAL

Second Chance at Parenthood:
Stem Cell Therapy Offers Hope

For couples who've experienced repeated IVF failures, the dream of having a child can feel out of reach. But Dr. Vidya Vishwanath Bhat, an endoscopic surgeon and IVF specialist at Radha Krishna Hospital, Giri Nagar, Bengaluru, offers hope for women struggling with infertility due to a thin uterine lining in the form of stem cell therapy.

This treatment targets a common culprit behind failed IVF cycles, a thin uterine lining or endometrium. While a typical endometrium is 1cm thick, it needs to reach 1.2cms during ovulation for optimal implantation. Unfortunately, many women have a thin endometrium due to various health factors, hindering their chances of pregnancy.

Dr. Bhat's expertise lies in diagnosing and treating thin endometrium. With over 25 years of experience and 13 years focused on IVF, she has handled over 1000 successful IVF deliveries. She has also trained around 800 doctors worldwide in endoscopy, IVF and hysteroscopy.

"Stem cell therapy offers a lifeline to couples who may have given up hope. These specialised cells have the potential to regenerate and thicken the endometrium, creating a more favourable environment for implantation," says Dr. Bhat. In the last few years, she has seen success in at least 15 patients who were able to conceive after undergoing stem cell therapy.

They provide a comprehensive experience, supporting couples from conception to delivery, with services like cosmetic gynaecology and a level 2 NICU for birth related complications. By combining her expertise in IVF with new-age therapies like stem cell therapy, Dr. Bhat is empowering women to achieve their dreams of parenthood.

RADHAKRISHNA MULTISPECIALITY HOSPITAL
3-4 Sunrise Towers, 3-4, JP Rd, opp. CANARA BANK, 1st phase Girinagar, Banashankari 3rd Stage, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560085

Grey water nightmare sparks dengue scare

Cambridge Road suffers from foul drains & missing footpaths; complaints to BBMP and Army Base authorities about improper sewage disposal remain unaddressed

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Left: Grey water from 515 Army Base Workshop quarters flowing into the roadside drain; Right: Cambridge Road 1st Cross has no footpath

Bengaluru is facing a dengue outbreak that has claimed a few lives, with thousands of cases reported at city hospitals. Despite the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Chief Commissioner's announcement of cleanliness measures to combat the spread, the BBMP Health Department's efforts have not been effective. The BBMP Health Department and Solid Waste Management Department struggle with inconsistency. Authorities fail to monitor cleanliness in known mosquito breeding areas. For instance, grey water is being discharged into the drain on the 1st Cross of Cambridge Road, opposite 515 Army Base Workshop School. The foul odour from the grey water released by 515 Army Base Workshop's residential quarters is so strong that one needs a handkerchief to shield their nose.

"I have been complaining to the BBMP ward engineer and the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board engineer to fix this problem as grey water is a health hazard not only for students of 515 Army Base Workshop School but also pedestrians. I urge the 515 Army Base Workshop authorities to take measures to stop letting grey water into the roadside drain," said BR Chandran, a social activist from Halasuru.

The other problem on this road is the lack of footpaths on one side of the road and the missing stone slabs on the footpath-cum-drain on the other side of the road. A stretch on one side of the road where the footpath is missing is occupied by auto rickshaws and cabs thus compelling pedestrians to walk in the middle of the road making them vulnerable to road accidents.

When contacted, BBMP Assistant Executive Engineer Murthy stated that he had repeatedly complained to the 515 Army Base Workshop authorities, but without any result. "I have advised them to take measures to stop letting grey water into the roadside drain but they failed to fix this problem. I will advise them again to stop letting the grey water into the drain but if they fail to do so, I will have to close the drain that carries grey water into the roadside drain," said the BBMP official.

Meanwhile, BWSSB Assistant Executive Engineer Kanakaraj has said that he would visit the spot on Friday. "The 515 Army Base Workshop authorities have to make arrangements to treat the grey water that is being let into the roadside drain. They should not allow the residents of the quarters to let grey water into the roadside drain," said Kanakaraj.

> **"Grey water used to flow into the underground pipe. It is now damaged due to road construction. We will take measures to fix it** –AK Dubey, army officer

AK Dubey, an officer of the 515 Army Base Workshop, stated, "Earlier grey water used to flow into the underground drainage pipe. People engaged in constructing the roadside drain damaged the underground pipe. We will take measures to stop grey water flowing into the roadside drain," said the army officer.

B'luru Suburban Rail corridor 4 to take off soon

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The Bengaluru Suburban Railway Project (BSRP) is now busy preparing to take up work on corridor 4 which spans from Heelalige to Rajanukunte. South Western Railway (SWR) approved the alignment for this corridor on January 23, 2024, and the land was subsequently handed over to K-RIDE on April 2, 2024. Preconstruction activities are underway, including geotechnical investigations, tree felling, utility shifting, design and structural work. Additionally, the acquisition of private land for this corridor is progressing, and work has already commenced on minor bridges and earth-retaining structures.

According to the K-RIDE newsletter, tenders are invited for Mallige Line station construction in two packages (corridor 2). Physical progress on this corridor is over 30%, with the 7.4 km section between Chikkabanavara and Yeshwanthpur set to be completed and commissioned first. "Regarding Corridor-1, KRIDE submitted the sixth alignment plan to SWR on November 24, 2023. On May 24, 2024, KRIDE re-submitted the plan, which now includes considerations for quadruple lines from Bengaluru City to Yeshwanthpur and from Yeshwanthpur to Devanahalli. Civil works for this corridor are financed through a loan, with tenders expected to be invited once the alignment plan receives approval from SWR and 'No Objection' from the European Investment Bank (EIB)," the newsletter said.

An official said, "Spanning 46 kilometres, the Heelalige-Rajanukunte stretch will host the 18 new stations, all designed to be eco-friendly with features like solar roofs and natural lighting. The selected contractor will be responsible for comprehensive station design, encompassing entrance and exit points, foot overbridges, and roofing. Separate tenders will soon be announced for the installation of solar power facilities at each station, ensuring a sustainable energy supply. A key component of the project involves the construction of five minor bridges along the designated stretch, with actual construction set to commence soon. The entire project is scheduled for completion within a two-year timeframe. By connecting the city with its outskirts, the project aims to streamline commuting for residents, thereby alleviating traffic congestion and promoting a more sustainable mode of transportation.``

The 18 stations slated for construction along Corridor-4 (Heelalige-Rajanukunte) include Bommasandra, Singena Agrahara, Huskur, Ambedkar Nagar, Carmelaram, Bellandur Road, Marathahalli, Kaggadasapura, Benniganahalli, Channasandra, Horamavu, Hennur, Thanisandra, RK Hegdenagar, Jakkur, Yelahanka, Muddenahalli, and Rajanukunte. These stations are integral to the Bengaluru Suburban Railway Project, designed to enhance transportation convenience and efficiency for Bangalore's residents.

The construction of stations along the Mallige corridor is set to commence soon. The project aims to complete all construction within 24 months.

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9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

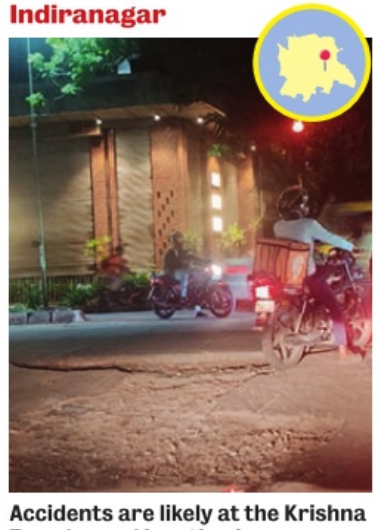
No parking
Jayanagar

Vehicles are parked under the "No Parking" sign and blocking pedestrians on 33rd Cross, 4th Block, Jayanagar, with no police present to address the issue.

Site neglect
Venkatachary Nagar

The vacant site on 1st Cross, Venkatachary Nagar, Railway Colony, has been abandoned for years and is now a garbage dump. It's also overrun with weeds like parthenium, which is a health hazard, especially during the monsoon.

Accident prone
Indiranagar



Accidents are likely at the Krishna Temple road junction in Indiranagar due to potholes and craters that haven't been fixed for 7 months.

Court orders MBBS admission for swimmer

High Court directs entry for swimmer Siri Srikanth after wrongful exclusion; next year's slot confirmed

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PIC FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

The Karnataka High Court has directed authorities to admit a student, Siri Srikanth, who was wrongfully refused admission to the MBBS course under the sports quota for the 2022-23 academic year. Siri Srikanth, a swimmer with numerous medals, took the CET and NEET exams and was initially ranked 24th on the eligibility list published by the Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA). However, a revised list moved her position to 29th. Srikanth alleged irregularities, claiming that Sathwik Shivanand, initially ranked 117th and later 129th, was admitted to Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, and another candidate not on the list was admitted elsewhere.

The court found that according to Rule 9(1)(B) of the Karnataka Selection of Candidates for Admission to Government Seats in Professional Educational Institutions Rules, 2006, Siri, categorised as P-IV, should have been prioritised over Shivanand, categorised as P-V. The court stated, "The interpretation of KEA that the inter-se merit/ranking is to be applied among the category of candidates claiming Sports Quota in P-IV and P-V is contrary to Rules 9(1)(B) of Rules 2006 and is unsustainable." Although the court did not cancel Shivanand's admission, it ordered that Siri be admitted to the MBBS course for the academic year 2024-25, stating, "The respondent authorities can be directed to admit the petitioner to the MBBS course for the academic year 2024-25 against the seats reserved under Sports Quota."

> **The interpretation of KEA that the inter-se merit/ ranking is to be applied among the category of candidates claiming Sports Quota is contrary to Rules 9(1)(B) of Rules 2006 and is unsustainable**
>
> – Karnataka High Court

Ex-cop denied bail in Rs 850 cr Bitcoin scam

The Karnataka High Court has denied anticipatory bail to Prashanth Babu DM, a former Inspector of Police who led the Technical Support Centre of Bengaluru's Central Crime Branch. The case involves Babu's illegal access to laptops seized in the Bitcoin scam and transferring their data to his personal desktop.

Justice MG Uma rejected Babu's petition, which argued that he had only assisted investigating officers and accused the current investigator of bias. The court based its decision on a Cyber Forensic Analysis Report from the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), which revealed that data from laptops seized from Srikrishna, a prime suspect in the scam, was transferred to Babu's personal desktop while the laptops were under his custody. The report also indicated that Babu, in collusion with other suspects, installed crypto hardware and data-wiping applications on his desktop.

Special Investigating Team (SIT) prosecutor P Prasanna Kumar stated that the seized laptops held about 4,000 bitcoins, valued at approximately Rs 850 crore in November 2020 when the bitcoins were accessed illegally by Babu and others. The court deemed Babu's custodial interrogation essential for the ongoing investigation.

HC orders BESCOM to adopt UPI

The High Court has directed BESCOM's Managing Director to submit an affidavit by August 9, explaining why Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and online payment options are not available for all payments. Justice N S Sanjay Gowda expressed surprise at BESCOM's failure to accept UPI, despite its global use. This follows a petition by senior citizen Seethalakshmi, who faced difficulties paying fees using a Demand Draft instead of UPI. The court criticised BESCOM's outdated payment methods and urged for UPI adoption to ease the process.

Forest Minister orders plastic ban

Karnataka Forest Minister Eshwar B Khandre has directed the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) to form a special task force to effectively implement the single-use plastic (SUP) ban. District-level task forces will have marshals to oversee the sale, storage, and transportation of banned plastic items. In a meeting on Friday, Khandre instructed the officials to establish these teams immediately so that manufacturing units, warehouses, and sales outlets can be monitored for the use of SUP items, including carry bags, spoons, plates, glasses, etc., and legal cases can be filed. He also emphasised that this action should be coordinated with other departments, including transport, police, and commercial tax.

Eco-friendly Ganesha idols

With the Ganesha festival approaching, the Minister once again urged people to use eco-friendly Ganesha idols for worship and green crackers for celebrations.

Ramanagara District renamed Bengaluru South

IN BRIEF

The Cabinet has decided to change the name of Ramanagara district to 'Bengaluru South' during a Cabinet meeting presided over by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday. According to HK Patil, the Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister, the decision was made based on the demand of the people in the region. He stated, "We have decided to rename Ramanagara district as Bengaluru South. It is based on the demand of the people there. The Revenue Department will start the process."

In a press briefing following the Cabinet meeting, Patil clarified that only the name of the district will change, while everything else will remain the same. The proposal to rename Ramanagara district, which includes the taluks of Ramanagara, Magadi, Kanakapura, Channapatna, and Harohalli, as 'Bengaluru South' recently gained momentum when a delegation led by Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar met with the Chief Minister and submitted a memorandum to push for the change.

Shalini Rajneesh appointed K'taka Chief Secretary

Shalini Rajneesh will be the new Chief Secretary of Karnataka, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister HK Patil said on Friday. The 1989 batch IAS officer will succeed her husband and outgoing Chief Secretary Rajneesh Goel, who is scheduled to retire on July 31.

"The Cabinet had authorised the Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to decide on the appointment of the new Chief Secretary. He has finalised the name of the now Additional Chief Secretary to government Shalini Rajneesh and informed the Cabinet today," Patil told reporters. The first couple to hold the post in Karnataka were BK Bhattacharya and his wife Teresa Bhattacharya more than two decades ago.

Shalini Rajneesh was the woman topper of the 1989 IAS batch, according to official sources. A PhD in Rural Development, she has penned several books covering various subjects like management, personality development, and women empowerment.

—BMB

TEAM INDIA
SG MASTER TAEKWONDO CENTER
ACHIEVES 1ST PLACE IN INTERNATIONAL TAEKWONDO COMPETITION AGAINST ALL OTHER COUNTRIES.

HRIDAY PATEL WITH SG MASTER, SURESH S HIS MASTER RECEIVING TROPHY

1st time INDIA has won the title of best team in taekwondo 1st place,this is achieved by SG MASTER TAEKWONDO CENTER and their students.

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2. Arjun K S at the age of 16 years wins 2 gold, 2 silver, 1 bronze medals
3. Jiya Patel at the age of 16 years 4 gold, 1 silver medals
4. Sujan S at the age of 13 years wins 3 gold, 1 silver medals
5. Anirudh at the age of 12 years wins 2 silver medals
6. Keerthan at the age of 17 years wins 1 gold, 1 silver, 2 bronze medals
7. Keerthi Vardhan a young 5 year old wins, 4 gold, 1 silver medals
8. Rudra I S a young 6 year old boy wins, 1 gold, 3 silver medals

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SG MASTER, SURESH S 4TH DAN BLACK BELT
(9844593399)
the main coach and guide to the kids have made our country proud and also made taekwondo stand out among other sports.

12-lane expressway to spark North Bengaluru's growth

The recent announcement in the Union Budget to convert the Bengaluru-Hyderabad highway into a 12-lane expressway has generated excitement among developers and potential buyers, promising to spur substantial growth in North Bengaluru. This development, highlighted by BJP MP and former Karnataka Cabinet minister K Sudhakar, is expected to be a game-changer for the region's economy. Chikkaballapur MP Sudhakar highlighted the project's potential, noting that expanding the Bengaluru-Hyderabad Highway to a 12-lane expressway will greatly enhance the regional economy and specifically benefit North Bengaluru.

Rajesh Kumar, a property developer said, "The 12-lane expressway is a monumental development for North Bengaluru. This infrastructure upgrade will improve connectivity, reduce travel time, and make the area more accessible. We expect a surge in demand for residential and commercial properties, which will drive up property values and stimulate economic activity. The enhanced connectivity would attract businesses to set up operations in the region, creating job opportunities and boosting the local economy. With better infrastructure, we foresee an influx of IT parks, manufacturing units, and other industries. This will transform North Bengaluru into a thriving economic hub," he added.

Potential buyers are equally excited about the prospects the new expressway will bring. Ananya Sharma, a prospective homebuyer said, "The announcement of the 12-lane expressway is fantastic news for us. It means better connectivity to the city and other regions, which is a crucial factor for us when considering a property. We are now more inclined to invest in North Bengaluru, knowing that it will soon be one of the most well-connected areas."

Real estate consultant, Arvind Patel, commented on the broader economic implications, "The 12-lane expressway will act as a catalyst for economic growth in North Bengaluru. Improved infrastructure will attract domestic and international investors, leading to the establishment of new businesses and industries. The government's commitment to improving infrastructure in Karnataka is evident in this ambitious project. By prioritising the expansion of the Bengaluru-Hyderabad highway, the government aims to enhance regional connectivity and foster economic growth. With support this project is set to boost the regional economy."

-Prakash VL

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

PIQUANT AND PEPPERY HOT

A sack of bird-eyed chillies at a shop in Madikeri

The picture was clicked by reader **NJ Ravi Chander**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com**

Medarahalli suffers from deplorable road conditions

Inspite of multiple pleas to local authorities, there has been no action taken to repair the road

Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharvMirror

The deteriorating condition of roads in Medarahalli, particularly around the SR Prime School and Pavithra School, has become a concerning issue for residents and students. The roads, once a minor inconvenience, have now turned into hazardous pathways, causing frequent accidents.

Residents report that the roads are so poorly maintained that they pose a daily risk. "It's a nightmare to navigate these roads. Every day, there's a new pothole or a damaged section that could cause a serious accident. When it rains, the entire road becomes slushy and slippery and I have seen many people falling and getting injured. We are constantly worried about our children's safety," said Ravi Kumar, a resident

Despite the growing concern and multiple pleas to local officials, there has been no substantial action taken to address the problem. "I've lived here for over a decade, and the road conditions have only worsened. It's becoming increasingly dangerous to drop off and pick up kids from school. We are deeply concerned about the safety of our students. Parents have voiced their frustrations about the hazardous conditions, and it's affecting the daily routines of our school community," said a school teacher.

The lack of response from authorities has added to the frustration of the residents. "It's disheartening to see that our concerns are not being taken seriously. There needs to be an immediate intervention to repair and maintain these roads. It's crucial for the safety and well-being of everyone living here. We hope that this petition will bring the necessary attention to our plight and prompt the authorities to act swiftly," adds a resident.

There is a need for immediate intervention to repair and maintain these roads, which has been neglected for long

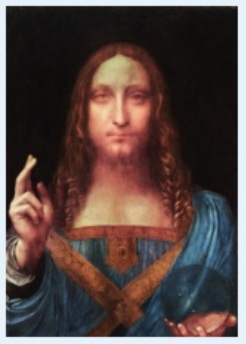
"It's a nightmare to navigate these roads. Every day, there's a new damage that could cause a serious accident

–Ravi Kumar, resident

DID YOU KNOW?

MOST EXPENSIVE PAINTING COSTS ₹37,67,26,72,500.00

Salvator Mundi by Leonardo da Vinci is the most expensive painting in the world, valued at ₹37,67,26,72,500.00. Salvator Mundi is the only known oil painting of da Vinci having its subject in a straight posture. The slight twist of the neck, which was his hallmark technique, is not followed here. The painting had and has always been famous for the art lovers of that era and now. This could be attributed to specific reasons, mainly it depicting Christ in the Renaissance theme and also it probably being the last work by Leonardo and is the only one that remained in someone's possession. All the speculations and debates over its authentication combined, as a result, made it the most high-priced artwork ever. It is currently acquired by Abu Dhabi's Department of Culture and Tourism for the Louvre Abu Dhabi and owned by Mohammad bin Salman.



GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAPTHECHATTER

where Bengalureans speak their mind

Which local market or shopping district do you find most vibrant and interesting?

Girish Kumar, BM Reader
Chickpet Market is a shopper's paradise. It's a bustling place where you can find a wide range of items, from clothes to shoes to cosmetics, all at affordable prices. The market is known for its variety of fabrics and traditional clothing.

Prathiba, BM Reader
Commercial Street is filled with a wide range of shops, offering everything from clothes to home decor. You can find both local and international brands, catering to different tastes and budgets. There are also several eateries there.

Bharath M, BM Reader
Chickpet and KR Market are very interesting places. The market is filled with lots of stuff and we can get anything at cheaper prices and with good quality

Shivanna K, BM Reader
Forum Mall is a wonderful mall that I found really interesting. The mall is designed with a garden theme, making it a stunning place to visit. It also has a food court and an auditorium for entertainment.

Richard, BM Reader
Metro Wholesale Market at Konanakunte Cross is known for its wide range of products, from food items to non-food products, and even consumer durables. The food and grocery section is particularly impressive.

Soundarya N, BM Reader
The vibrant and interesting places for me are Commercial Street, Chickpet market, Brigade road, and MG road. These places make the Bangalore City a shopping district. MG Road and Brigade road are a shopper's dream indeed.

SPEAK TO US

Which local food or cuisine is your go-to in Bengaluru, and where do you usually enjoy it?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at WhatsApp us on 9591233247 or mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com

Infrastructure fuels Kanakapura Road growth

Kanakapura Road is fast developing into a heaven for those who plan to buy affordable property. The surge is driven by several transformative factors that are reshaping the area into one of Bengaluru's most sought-after locales. The confluence of prominent educational institutions, thriving industrial areas, infrastructure upgrades, and administrative changes is creating a perfect storm for real estate growth.

Reputed educational institutions

One of the foremost drivers of the real estate boom on Kanakapura Road is the presence of renowned educational institutions. The area is home to several prestigious schools and colleges that attract families seeking quality education for their children. Many institutions offer excellent educational opportunities, making the region highly desirable for families looking to invest in property. "Parents are increasingly prioritising access to top-tier educational facilities when choosing a home, and Kanakapura Road's educational infrastructure caters to this demand. This trend has led to a steady increase in residential developments, with builders and developers focusing on creating family-friendly communities that offer both comfort and access to quality education", said Swapna Dut, who had recently moved to Kanakapura Road.

Harohalli industrial area

Another crucial factor contributing to the real estate boom on Kanakapura Road is the thriving Harohalli Industrial Area. "Situated strategically close to Kanakapura Road, this industrial hub has become a significant employment centre, attracting a diverse workforce from across the region. The presence of numerous industries, including manufacturing units, IT firms, and logistics companies, has created a substantial number of job opportunities. The influx of employees and their families into the area has spurred demand for residential properties, further driving real estate growth. The Harohalli Industrial Area has not only boosted the local economy but has also acted as a catalyst for infrastructure development and housing projects," said Umesh Kashyap, an Industrialist.

Infrastructure upgrades

Infrastructure development plays a pivotal role in the real estate boom on Kanakapura Road. The ongoing upgrading of the Kanakapura Highway is a game-changer, improving connectivity between Bengaluru and the suburban areas. The road expansion project is set to enhance the overall infrastructure, reduce travel time, and increase accessibility to and from key locations. "Improved transportation infrastructure is a major draw for homebuyers and investors. As the Kanakapura Highway evolves into a major arterial road, it is expected to attract more businesses, shopping centres, and recreational facilities, further increasing the area's appeal. The enhanced connectivity also means that residents will have easier access to Bengaluru's main business districts, making Kanakapura Road an attractive option for those seeking a balance between suburban tranquillity and urban convenience", said Rajesh Poonja, a developer.

Administrative changes

Adding another layer of development to Kanakapura Road is its upcoming inclusion in the Bengaluru South district. This administrative change is set to elevate the status of the area, aligning it with Bengaluru's expanding administrative boundaries and increasing its significance in the broader urban landscape. "The creation of Bengaluru South district is expected to lead to more focused development efforts, improved civic amenities, and better governance. This administrative shift will likely result in enhanced infrastructure projects, increased investment in public services, and a boost in property values. Homebuyers and investors are already recognising the potential of the area, anticipating that its new district status will drive further growth and development. Overall, with its robust educational infrastructure, thriving industrial sector, and significant infrastructure improvements properties around Kanakapura Road are continuing to attract investors, developers, and homebuyers", Poonja added.

–Prakash VL

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Not game for AI

Video game performers will go on strike over artificial intelligence concerns

SAG-AFTRA committee members and members of the board gather for a news conference at the SAG-AFTRA headquarters in Los Angeles on Thursday

Hollywood's video game performers announced they would go on strike Thursday, throwing part of the entertainment industry into another work stoppage after talks for a new contract with major game studios broke down over artificial intelligence protections.

The strike — the second for video game voice actors and motion capture performers under the Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists — will begin at 12.01 am Friday. The move comes after nearly two years of negotiations with gaming giants, including divisions of Activision, Warner Bros. and Walt Disney Co., over a new interactive media agreement.

SAG-AFTRA negotiators say gains have been made over wages and job safety in the video game contract, but that the two sides remained split over the regulation of generative AI.

A spokesperson for the video game producers, Audrey Cooling, said the studios offered AI protections, but SAG-AFTRA's negotiating committee said that the studios' definition of who constitutes a "performer" is key to understanding the issue of who would be protected.

"The industry has told us point blank that they do not necessarily consider everyone who is rendering movement performance to be a performer that is covered by the collective bargaining agreement," SAG-AFTRA Chief Contracts Officer Ray Rodriguez said at a news conference Thursday afternoon. He said some physical performances are being treated as "data."

Without guardrails, game companies could train AI to replicate an actor's voice, or create a digital replica of their likeness without consent or fair compensation, the union said.

"We strike as a matter of last resort. We have given this process absolutely as much time as we responsibly can," Rodriguez told reporters. "We have exhausted the other possibilities, and that is why we're doing it now."

Cooling said the companies' offer "extends meaningful AI protections."

"We are disappointed the union has chosen to walk away when we are so close to a deal, and we remain prepared to resume negotiations," she said.

Andi Norris, an actor and member of the union's negotiating committee, said that those who do stunt work or creature performances would still be at risk under the game companies' offer.

"The performers who bring their body of work to these games create a whole variety of characters, and all of that work must be covered. Their proposal would carve out anything that doesn't look and sound identical to me as I sit here, when, in truth, on any given week I am a zombie, I am a soldier, I am a zombie soldier," Norris said. "We cannot and will not accept that a stunt or movement performer giving a full performance on stage next to a voice actor isn't a performer."

> **"The industry has told us point blank that they do not necessarily consider everyone who is rendering movement performance to be a performer**

The global video game industry generates well over $100 billion dollars in profit annually, according to game market forecaster Newzoo. The people who design and bring those games to life are the driving force behind that success, SAG-AFTRA said.

Members voted overwhelmingly last year to give leadership the authority to strike. Concerns about how movie studios will use AI helped fuel last year's film and television strikes by the union, which lasted four months.

The last interactive contract, which expired in November 2022, did not provide protections around AI but secured a bonus compensation structure for voice actors and performance capture artists after an 11-month strike that began in October 2016.

The video game agreement covers more than 2,500 "off-camera (voiceover) performers, on-camera (motion capture, stunt) performers, stunt coordinators, singers, dancers, puppeteers, and background performers," according to the union. **-AP**

OpenAI enters Google-dominated search market

OpenAI is venturing into a territory long dominated by Google with the selective launch of SearchGPT, an AI-powered search engine with real-time access to information from the internet.

The move, announced on Thursday, also places the AI giant in competition with its largest backer Microsoft's Bing search and emerging services such as Perplexity — a search-focused AI chatbot firm backed by Amazon founder Jeff Bezos and semiconductor giant Nvidia.

Shares of Google's parent company Alphabet ended 3% lower on Thursday, after OpenAI's announcement.

OpenAI said it has opened sign-ups for the new tool, which is currently in the prototype stage and is being tested with a small group of users and publishers. The company plans to integrate the best features from the search tool into ChatGPT in the future.

> **OpenAI said it has opened sign-ups for new tool, which is currently in prototype stage and is being tested with a small group of users and publishers**

"AI-powered search tools from OpenAI and Perplexity re-affirm search as a content engagement model but pressure Google to be better at its own game," Canaccord Genuity analyst Kingsley Crane said.

Google dominates the search engine market with a 91.1% market share as of June, according to web analytics firm Statcounter.

SearchGPT will provide summarized search results with source links in response to user queries, OpenAI said in a blog post. Users will also be able to ask follow-up questions and receive contextual responses. The company will give publishers access to tools for managing how their content appears in SearchGPT results.

SearchGPT signals a closer collaboration between publishers and OpenAI, following content licensing agreements with major organizations like Associated Press, News Corp, and Axel Springer.

"Newer AI-powered search providers could face challenges of their own, with Perplexity already facing pending legal action from publishers like Wired and Forbes, and Condé Nast," said Crane.

Major search engines have been trying to integrate AI into search since ChatGPT first launched in November 2022. Microsoft, through its early investment, adopted OpenAI technology for its Bing search engine, while Google rolled out AI-powered summaries for the wider public at its developer conference in May.

Google did not respond to a Reuters query on the potential impact on its business. **-Reuters**

BITS & BYTES

Windows back

More than 97% of Windows sensors are back online, CrowdStrike's CEO George Kurtz said on Thursday, nearly a week after a software update by the cybersecurity firm triggered a global outage. The company's Falcon platform sensor is a security agent installed on devices such as laptops and desktops that protects them from threats.

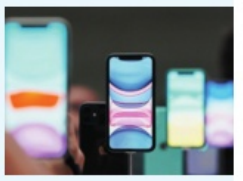
The outage happened because the advanced platform contained a fault that forced computers running Microsoft's Windows operating system to crash and show the so-called blue screen of death.

Microsoft said on Saturday about 8.5 million Windows devices had been affected in the outage that had left flights grounded, forced broadcasters off air and left customers without access to services such as healthcare or banking. "Our recovery efforts have been enhanced," Kurtz said in a LinkedIn post. **-Reuters**

iPhone in India

In a fillip to the country's local manufacturing success story, tech giant Apple is set to make its 'Make in India' iPhone 16 Pro and 16 Pro Max models available in the country right after the global launch this fall, industry sources said on Friday.

Sources told IANS that these high-end, India-assembled Apple devices will be available within 1-2 months of the global launch in partnership with leading manufacturer Foxconn's facility in Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu.



Meanwhile, iPhone 16 is set to be made available on the first day of global sales in India, just like last year when iPhone 15 arrived in the domestic market on the very first day of the global sale. It will be shortly followed by iPhone 16 Plus models, sources added. **-IANS**

Boost to Paytm

India's Paytm has got approval from the government for its 500 million rupees ($5.97 million) investment in a key subsidiary, a top finance ministry official told Reuters on Friday.

The approval, which was stuck for months due to the company's link to China, will remove the main stumbling block to the unit, Paytm Payment Services, resuming normal business operations. Paytm Payment Services is one of the biggest remaining parts of the fintech firm's business, accounting for a quarter of consolidated revenue in the financial year ended March 2023. Vivek Joshi, financial services secretary, said the company can approach India's central bank to seek a payment aggregator license which the bank will evaluate. **-Reuters**

HEALTH TIP: More calcium, zinc intake may lower fatal BP disorders in pregnancy

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MIGRAINE DECODED

What happens in my brain? What medications can I use to treat it?

Migraine is many things, but one thing it's not is "just a headache".

"Migraine" comes from the Greek word "hemicrania", referring to the common experience of migraine being predominantly one-sided.

Some people experience an "aura" preceding the headache phase – usually a visual or sensory experience that evolves over five to 60 minutes. Auras can also involve other domains such as language, smell and limb function.

Migraine is a disease with a huge personal and societal impact. Most people cannot function at their usual level during a migraine, and anticipation of the next attack can affect productivity, relationships and a person's mental health.

What's happening in my brain?

The biological basis of migraine is complex, and varies according to the phase of the migraine. Put simply:

The earliest phase is called the prodrome. This is associated with activation of a part of the brain called the hypothalamus which is thought to contribute to many symptoms such as nausea, changes in appetite and blurred vision.

Next is the aura phase, when a wave of neurochemical changes occur across the surface of the brain (the cortex) at a rate of 3–4 millimetres per minute. This explains how usually a person's aura progresses over time. People often experience sensory disturbances such as flashes of light or tingling in their face or hands.

In the headache phase, the trigeminal nerve system is activated. This gives sensation to one side of the face, head and upper neck, leading to release of proteins such as CGRP (calcitonin gene-related peptide). This causes inflammation and dilation of blood vessels, which is the basis for the severe throbbing pain associated with the headache.

Finally, the postdromal phase occurs after the headache resolves and commonly involves changes in mood and energy.

What can you do about the acute attack?

A useful way to conceive of migraine treatment is to compare putting out campfires with bushfires. Medications are much more successful when applied at the earliest opportunity (the campfire). When the attack is fully evolved (into a bushfire), medications have a much more modest effect.

Aspirin

For people with mild migraine, non-specific anti-inflammatory medications such as high-dose aspirin, or standard dose non-steroidal medications (NSAIDS) can be very helpful. Their effectiveness is often enhanced with the use of an anti-nausea medication.

Triptans

For moderate to severe attacks, the mainstay of treatment is a class of medications called "triptans". These act by reducing blood vessel dilation and reducing the release of inflammatory chemicals.

Triptans vary by their route of administration (tablets, wafers, injections, nasal sprays) and by their time to onset and duration of action.

The choice of a triptan depends on many factors including whether nausea and vomiting is prominent (consider a dissolving wafer or an injection) or patient tolerability (consider choosing one with a slower onset and offset of action).

As triptans constrict blood vessels, they should be used with caution (or not used) in patients with known heart disease or previous stroke.

Gepants

Some medications that block or modulate the release of CGRP, which are used for migraine prevention, also have evidence of benefit in treating the acute attack. This class of medication is known as the "gepants".

Gepants come in the form of injectable proteins (monoclonal antibodies, used for migraine prevention) or as oral medication (for example, rimegepant) for the acute attack when a person has not responded adequately to previous trials of several triptans or is intolerant of them.

They do not cause blood vessel constriction and can be used in patients with heart disease or previous stroke.

Ditans

Another class of medication, the "ditans" (for example, lasmiditan) have been approved overseas for the acute treatment of migraine. Ditans work through changing a form of serotonin receptor involved in the brain chemical changes associated with the acute attack.

However, neither the gepants nor the ditans are available through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) for the acute attack, so users must pay out-of-pocket, at a cost of approximately A$300 for eight wafers.

What about preventing migraines?

The first step is to see if lifestyle changes can reduce migraine frequency. This can include improving sleep habits, routine meal schedules, regular exercise, limiting caffeine intake and avoiding triggers such as stress or alcohol.

Despite these efforts, many people continue to have frequent migraines that can't be managed by acute therapies alone. The choice of when to start preventive treatment varies for each person and how inclined they are to taking regular medication. Those who suffer disabling symptoms or experience more than a few migraines a month benefit the most from starting preventives.

Almost all migraine preventives have existing roles in treating other medical conditions, and the physician would commonly recommend drugs that can also help manage any pre-existing conditions. First-line preventives include:

- tablets that lower blood pressure (candesartan, metoprolol, propranolol)
- antidepressants (amitriptyline, venlafaxine)
- anticonvulsants (sodium valproate, topiramate).

Some people have none of these other conditions and can safely start medications for migraine prophylaxis alone.

For all migraine preventives, a key principle is starting at a low dose and increasing gradually. This approach makes them more tolerable and it's often several weeks or months until an effective dose (usually 2- to 3-times the starting dose) is reached.

It is rare for noticeable benefits to be seen immediately, but with time these drugs typically reduce migraine frequency by 50% or more.

'Nothing works for me!'

In people who didn't see any effect of (or couldn't tolerate) first-line preventives, new medications have been available on the PBS since 2020. These medications block the action of CGRP.

The most common PBS-listed anti-CGRP medications are injectable proteins called monoclonal antibodies (for example, galcanezumab and fremanezumab), and are self-administered by monthly injections.

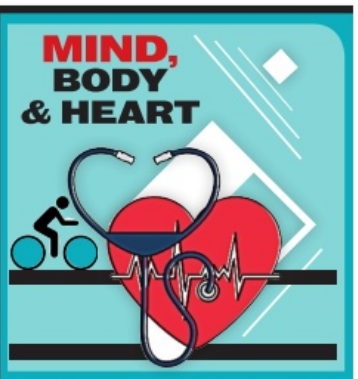
These drugs have quickly become a game-changer for those with intractable migraines. The convenience of these injectables contrast with botulinum toxin injections (also effective and PBS-listed for chronic migraine) which must be administered by a trained specialist.

Up to half of adolescents and one-third of young adults are needle-phobic. If this includes you, tablet-form CGRP antagonists for migraine prevention are hopefully not far away.

Data over the past five years suggest anti-CGRP medications are safe, effective and at least as well tolerated as traditional preventives.

Nonetheless, these are used only after a number of cheaper and more readily available first-line treatments (all which have decades of safety data) have failed, and this also a criterion for their use under the PBS.

By Mark Slee and Anthony Khoo, Flinders University, The Conversation



All you need to know about...

Monsoon health

Points to note

Give importance to your health right from the start so that you can enjoy the monsoons without falling sick. Use these easy tips and hacks for yourself as well as for your family.

Staying healthy in the monsoon season is about taking care of your skin, diet, hydration levels, the clothes you wear, and more.

Do's and Don'ts

Avoid getting drenched in the rain as that can make you prone to viruses or bacteria; if you do, shower or dry off immediately.

Shower with disinfected water to avoid infections and diseases.

Practise good hand hygiene by always washing your hands with soap and water or sanitising them before eating anything.

Eat healthy food and drink enough water throughout the day, even if you don't feel as thirsty.

Avoid mold in clothes by ironing them to make them completely dry before putting them away in the closet.

Wear loose cotton clothes to prevent skin infections.

Make sure your gym clothes are made of a material that wicks away moisture. Sweat sitting on the skin can cause skin infections, so be sure to shower immediately after working out.

Clear out stagnant water in and around your house to prevent mosquito proliferation. Use mosquito repellent, coils, and sprays to protect yourself and your loved ones from mosquito-borne diseases like dengue, malaria, chikungunya, etc.

Don't forget the lessons the covid-19 pandemic taught us – practice social distancing and wear a face mask to avoid contagious diseases.

If you know you have an allergy to pollen, mold, or other allergens, always keep your allergy medicine with you. Minimise reactions by wearing a face mask when you step out. —**Femina**

High no. of cases, low rate of disposal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Assistant Conservators of Forest (ACFs), and Range Forest Officers (RFOs) should be held accountable in case of encroachment. These are the officials that play major roles in forest encroachment and evictions. However, no actions are taken against them by the department," said an environmentalist.

Case not closed

While the surge in the number of cases has been unprecedented, the disposal rate is abysmal. This year, only five encroachment cases from the circle were disposed of.

As of March 30, 2024, the Bengaluru Circle has 5,408 encroachment cases pending for disposal, and over 45,000 cases across Karnataka are pending.

In December last year, the department disclosed its plan to appoint a team of special officers so as to ensure forest land encroachment cases in the state can be disposed of faster. The proposal was to constitute a team of nearly 80 retired officials of the KFD who would not only file forest encroachment cases but would also take them to a logical end in an expeditious manner. The department had also approached the government with a proposal stating these special officers would also ensure evictions.

"The proposal was tabled again on June 26, however, there were a few objections raised by some officials. Thus, for now, it is off the table although it might be brought back with some modifications later," informed a source in the department.

Around Rs 20 lakh spent for absentees' salaries

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

December 7, 2022 stating that the service provider has to submit one copy of the attendance certificate received from the workplaces to claim payment.

However, the ESISMS officials, especially the Office Superintendent and Assistant Administrative Officer, certified the attendance certificate submitted by the service provider without insisting on the reports from institutions. The result: Full payment was made to service provider for pharmacists who worked only for a few days in a month. For instance, the actual attendance certificate issued by ESI Dispensary, Nelamangala shows that Jeevika M, a pharmacist, was absent from February 6, 2023, but the ESISMS paid for the entire month. Another example is of Sthairya CR, a pharmacist at ESI dispensary, Rajajinagar-2, who was absent from August 20, 2023. The ESISM paid for the services of Sthairya for 24 days of September and all of October, November, and December.

BR Govindaraju, an activist, availed of the details of payment to the service provider by submitting an application under the Right To Information Act. Govindaraju also approached the Lokayukta seeking action against those responsible for misappropriation of funds. Anjankumar V, Police Inspector-25 of Lokayukta had issued a notice to Govindaraju on April 1, 2024 directing him to appear before him at 11.30 am on April 8, 2024 but nothing has happened till date. Govindaraju filed a petition in the City Civil and Sessions Court seeking a direction to Lokayukta Police. The City Civil and Sessions Judge referred the complaint to the Lokayukta Superintendent of Police on July 22, 2024 and adjourned the hearing of the petition to September 30.

ESISMS Office Superintendent Girish G, one of the respondents, said he followed the Director's direction not to delay payments to the service provider to ensure that pharmacists get salary on time. "One activist lodged a complaint with the Minister for Labour Office against the excess payment made to the service provider. There was a preliminary inquiry on misappropriation of funds. We took measures to recover the excess money and promptly deposited it with the Karnataka Treasury Department," said Girish.

It is alleged that ESISMS authorities are still continuing the services of Feature Planet Private Limited. When asked about that, Girish said he has no control on it. When informed, ESISMS Director Dr Varadaraj V said the misappropriation of funds took place before he assumed the office. "We initiated a preliminary inquiry and took measures to recover the money. I will summon my subordinates to submit all the documents and verify them. We will take action against the service provider if any fake certificates were submitted. We have withheld around Rs 20 lakh from the payment for the service provider," said the ESISMS Director. The ESISMS Director said arrangements are being made to float a tender to select a new service provider. "We gave an extension to the service provider due to a model code of conduct. We will blacklist the current agency," the director said.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, Hajira Farheen Fazal Ahamed, R/ at 101, Shreshta Southern Star Apt, Akshayanagar, Bangalore - 560068, shall henceforth be known as Hajira Farheen, vide affidavit dt:20.07.2024 before Notary L Puttaraju, Bangalore

I,MD Irshad Ali S/o Mansoor Ali R/o 2825/2821/M3/A 4th Floor Cross sawday Road mandi Mohalla Mysore-570021 have changed my name to Mohammed Irshad Ali.

I, Prasanna Kumar H V S/o Venkatasubbu Udupa R/o No.10, Hebburli village, Mathimane po, Hosanagar Tq, Shivamogga 577425 present camp at Bengaluru have changed my name to Prasanna Udupa Affidavit Dt.26/07/2024 notary Harisha G, Bengaluru

I Umesh Poojary S/O, Giriya Poojary R/o No.562,g-f,pattanagere Bhel Layout,2nd Cross,rajarajeshwari Nagar,bangalore-560098 Vide Affidavit Dated 26/07/2024 Notarized By A R Muneer Ahmed(regd No.4932), have changed my name to Umesh Giriya Poojary.

I, DEVASHISH PATIL, S/o Kailash Chandra Patil, Residing at Flat 11, Manjushree homes, 2nd main road, Near Vani Hotel, Udaya Nagar, Mahadevpura, Bengaluru-560016, has changed my name from DEVASHISH to DEVASHISH PATIL for all future purposes.

I, Chaitanya S/o Suresh Taware R/o No.104, 1st Floor, Siri Sapthagiri Comfort, 1st main, Sapthagiri Colony, Bengaluru 560061 have changed my name to Chaitanya Suresh Taware Affidavit Dt.26/07/2024 Notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Mohammed Zohaeb Mansoor S/o Mohammed Mansoor R/o No.326, 4th A cross, 3rd Block, HRBR Lyt, Kalyananagar, Bengaluru 560043 have changed my name to Mohammed Zohaeb Affidavit Dt.26/07/2024 notary Harisha G, B'luru

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I Mohamed Imran Shafi S/o. Shafi Ahmed Age 42 Years, Residing at No.9 Srinivasa Layout Kavalbyra sandra Bengaluru 560032 have changed my name from Mohamed Imran Shafi to Mohammed Imran vide Affidavit dated 25.07.2024 sworn before Notary by Y.R Chandrasekar,Blr

I, Thejas Natanahalli Sanjeevakumar, S/o. Sanjeevakumar N. R., R/o. 265, GF, Sri Ranga, 9th Main, Vidhyagiri Layout, Nagarbhavi, Blr-560072, have changed my name to TEJAS NATANAHALLI SANJEEVAKUMAR vide affidavit Dtd: 26/07/24 before Notary M. Rajendra, B'lore.

I, Kavita R/a No.001, Trinity Gardens,No.71. Nagavarapalya, CV Raman Nagar, Bengaluru 560093. Have Changed To KAVITA SHASHI KUMAR. Vide Affdt Dt:25.07.2024. Sowrn Before Notary:Devaraja E.

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 # Bond break
Australian actor George Lazenby, best known for essaying the iconic role of James Bond in 1969's 'On Her Majesty's Secret Service', has decided to put a full stop to his acting career

Starry net worth

A look at Deepika, who is among highest tax-payers in Indian film industry

Renowned as one of Bollywood's leading ladies, Deepika Padukone who recently made waves with her impressive work in 'Jawan,' 'Fighter,' 'Kalki 2898 AD' and soon will be embracing motherhood has an impressive net worth stands at an estimated Rs 500 crore. This formidable financial status places her among the highest tax-payers in the Indian film industry.

Deepika's financial journey is marked by substantial earnings and a commendable tax record. According to the Moneycontrol report, in the fiscal year 2016-2017, she paid a hefty Rs 10 crore as tax, reflecting her impressive income during that period. Last year, she was the sole female actor to appear on India's list of highest individual taxpayers.

Income stats and per movie fee

According to Forbes, the income of the 'Piku' star in 2019 was Rs 48 crore. The previous year, she amassed a staggering Rs 112.8 crore. While recent specific figures are not available, it is widely believed that her income has continued to grow, given her thriving career. Reports suggest that she charges between Rs 15-20 crore per film.

Brand endorsements

Padukone's portfolio of brand endorsements is as diverse as it is impressive. She has lent her face and name to a plethora of top-tier brands. The extensive list spans across various sectors from high fashion and luxury watches to health food and airlines, reinforcing her status as one of the most recognisable and influential celebrities in India. She reportedly charges Rs 8 crore for brand Investments and business ventures.

Investments

Deepika Padukone has ventured into strategic investments, further solidifying her financial acumen. According to a report by GQ, she has invested in several promising startups that not only diversify her income streams but also align her with innovative and forward-thinking enterprises.

Real estate

Deepika's real estate portfolio is equally noteworthy. She owns a luxurious 4BHK flat on the 26th floor of Tower B in Beaumonde Towers, Mumbai. In 2021, she and her husband, fellow Bollywood star Ranveer Singh, purchased a second bungalow in the scenic coastal town of Alibaug for Rs 22 crore. Adding to her impressive property assets, she and her father, Prakash Padukone, registered a serviced apartment in Bengaluru for Rs 6.79 crore in 2021, although this property was initially purchased in 2012. **—ETimes**

Superb anthology of self-transformation

Roopanthara
3.0 RATING ★★★½☆
- **DIRECTOR** Mithilesh Edavalath
- **ACTORS** Raj B Shetty, Lekha Naidu, Hanumakka, Somasekhar Bolegaon, Anjan Bharadwaj, Bharath BG, and
- **CERTIFICATION** U/A
- **Duration** 152 minutes

Technical aspects and crisp screenplay of Roopanthara are an example of how a debutant director can handle the megaphone with aplomb and keep the audiences hooked throughout the movie at theaters. It is also an example of how a debutant director can come out with a good movie if he has the dedication. Director Mithilesh Edavalath has handled four inter-connecting tales in the movie with much finesse. He also conveys an apt message to society, especially to those who are on the wrong path, on the need for reformation.

Edvalath conveys that reformation is not easy for a person on the wrong path. He explains that reformation from the wrong path or method is accompanied with a lot of pain and struggle and it is up to people whether or not to transform themselves by preparing themselves to face the problems.

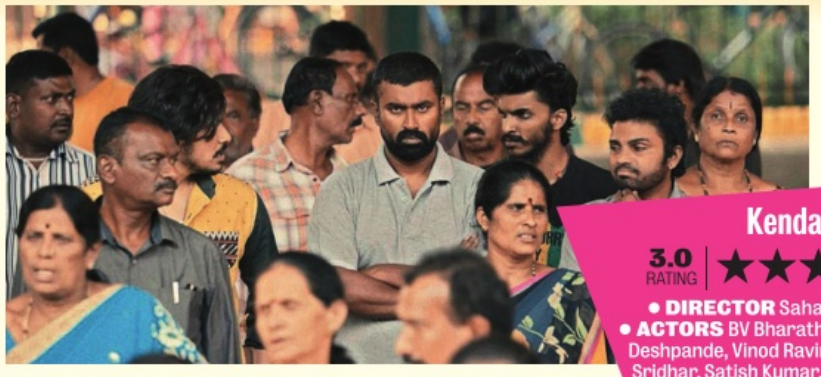
The movie begins with a few people armed with sophisticated weapons trying to eliminate some people living in makeshift tents. They come across a nomad and want to kill him. They asked him to narrate a story and he agrees to tell them not one but four stories.

One of the stories is about an old couple (Hanumakka and Somasekhar Bolegaon) from a village in Bagalkot district. The husband wants to help his wife realise her dream of visiting Bengaluru. The struggles the couple undergo in Bengaluru can melt the audiences' hearts.

The other story is about a beggar (Lekha Naidu) who is accused of kidnapping a child. The third story is about a young man (Anjan Bharadwaj) who is addicted to drugs and enters into anti-social activities. The fourth story is about a local rowdy (Raj B Shetty) who gets into a brawl with an IT employee over a silly reason.

As far as the performances of the actors are concerned, Raj Shetty is at his best. Hanumakka and Somasekhar walk away with all honours for their sterling performance. Anjan Bharadwaj and Lekha Naidu have acted well. **—Y Maheswara Reddy**

Youth caught between politics and vice



Kenda
3.0 RATING ★★★☆☆
- **DIRECTOR** Sahadev Kelvadi
- **ACTORS** BV Bharath, Gopal Krishna Deshpande, Vinod Ravindran, Pranav Sridhar, Satish Kumar, Rekha Kudligi
- **CERTIFICATION** A
- **Duration** 135 minutes

Kenda is Sahadev Kelvadi's maiden film as a director. Prior to this, Kelvadi worked as a cinematographer and a co-producer for critically acclaimed film Gantumoote. Kelvadi is also the cinematographer for Kenda. He has ensured that the characters in the movie are foot soldiers and not glorified as enormous figures.

Though the movie is set in the world of rowdyism, it is different from typical Kannada commercial and action movies that give importance to glorifying heroes. Kenda revolves around incidents that took place in an era prior to the boom of mobile phones and the internet. This movie, which narrates how a common man navigates between politics and crime, was screened at Dada Saheb Film Festival in April and the director won the Dada Saheb Phalke Best Debutant Director Award.

The movie begins with Keshava (BV Bharath) who is on duty at a foundry in Bengaluru. Keshava happens to meet Vinayaka (Pranav Sridhar) who introduces him to Shankaranna (Gopal Krishna Deshpande), a politician, and Narasimha Sastry (Vinod Ravindran), an editor of a vernacular daily. Shankaranna and Narasimha Sastry assign Keshava to gather youth and create violence in the society using country-made bombs. Keshava's father, an alcoholic, advises him not to oblige Narasimha. What happens to Keshava is what Kenda is all about.

BV Bharath has acted well. He has followed the script faithfully and religiously without craving to showcase himself as a hero. He has succeeded in proving his acting skills. Gopal Krishna Deshpande has done a good job as a politician who goes to any extent to exploit innocent farmers. Vinod Ravindran is convincing as an editor who wants to become famous by sensationalising news. Bindu Raxidi and Rekha Kudligi have provided good support.

This film is worth a watch for serious viewing.

—Y Maheswara Reddy

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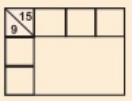
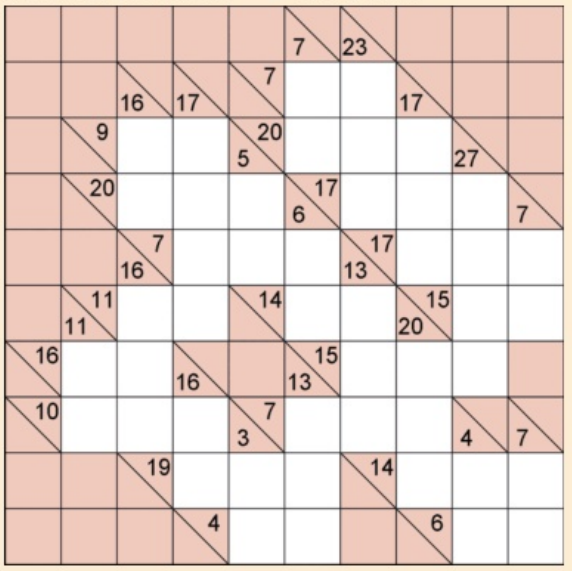
Kakuro

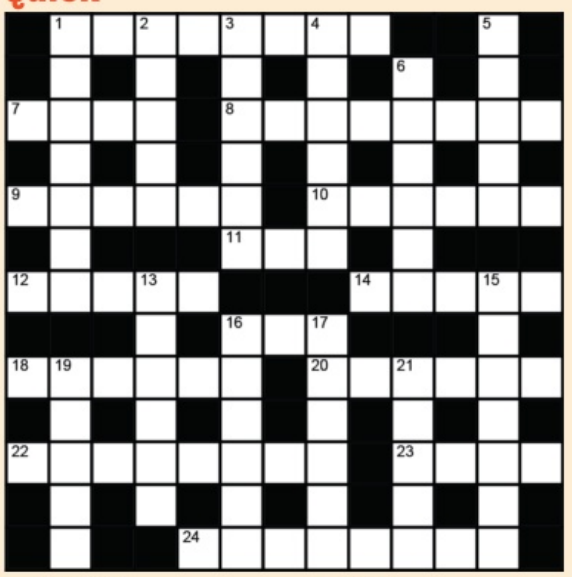
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Seppuku (4-4)
7 Tube; pipe (4)
8 Went backwards (8)
9 Copenhagen gardens (6)
10 Acting with gestures without words (6)
11 A light blow (3)
12 Get confused completely, take one for the other? (3,2)
14 African lake–"as any" anagram? (5)
16 Prosecute at law (3)
18 Off course (6)
20 Serious and dignified (6)
22 How a witness testifies–promising to be truthful? (4,4)
23 A part of speech (4)
24 Without warning (8)

DOWN

1 Harry ____ : the famous escape artist? (7)
2 Mathematical proportion (5)
3 Sesame Street frog (6)
4 Recondition, mend or overhaul (6)
5 Arrange the feathers (5)
6 Bad-tempered (6)
13 Societies or associations (6)
15 This cathedral in Bangalore is over 200 years old (2,5)
16 Tension (6)
17 Abstain from (6)
19 Affects by giving narcotics (5)
21 Largest internal organ (5)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: Q EQUALS D

QBZ'S VWN WZN WSSGZSCBZ SB MUWS SUGN MYCSG WABKS NBK. IKPS HGWPKYG CS CZ CZOUGP.

Linemaro

I want to tweet your mother 'thank you' for giving birth to something as gorgeous as you

Mindchow

Stop the blame game; you can't win it! All fans of blame are defeated in every way... Don't join them!

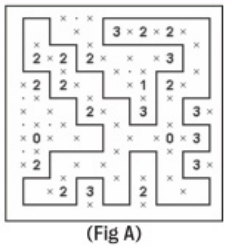
Joke of the day

Q: What nails do carpenters hate to hit?
A: Fingernails.

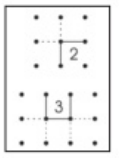
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

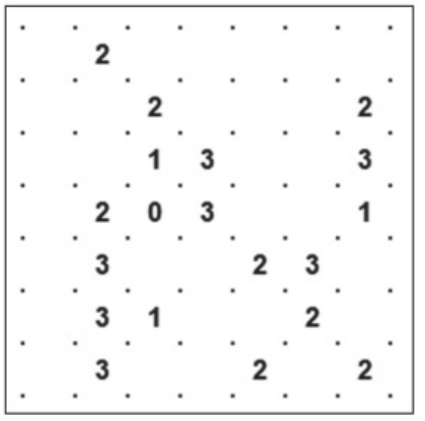


(Fig B) Not Allowed

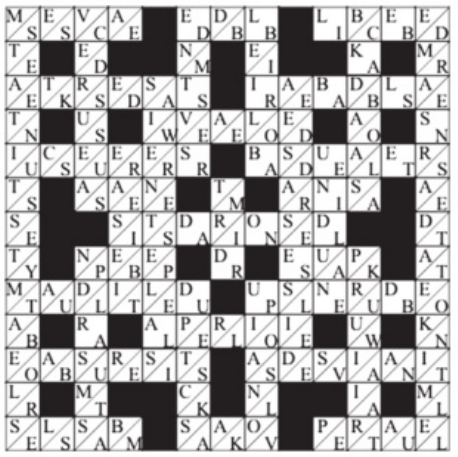
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



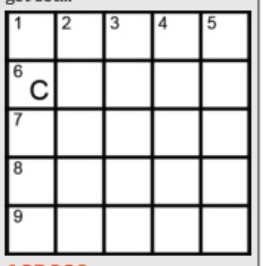
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 Speer; 6 Cloud; 7 Ideal; 8 A mule; 9 Sirup

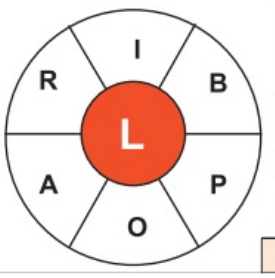
DOWN

1 A cusp; 2 Oil up; 3 Lurer; 4 Emile; 5 Sad Ed

Mensapuzzle

Solve this rebus:

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

11 Average; 13 Good; 15 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	7			3				
8		5						9
	9				4			5
	2					6		
3			1	4	9			7
		9					4	
5			8				6	
2						3		4
				7			5	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 6

1 3 3 5

Medium = 40

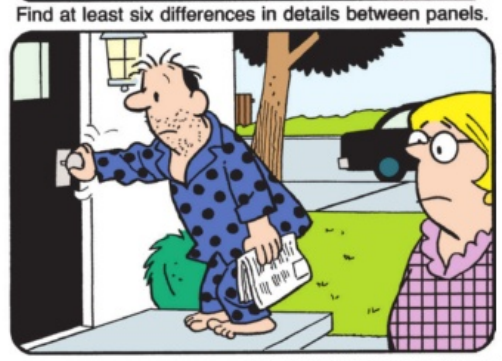
2 2 4 6

Hard = 7

3 6 9 5

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



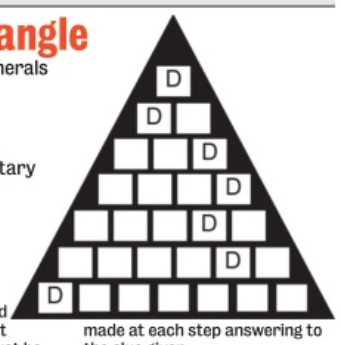
Differences: 1. Doorknob is higher. 2. Tree limb is different. 3. Back of car is different. 4. Hair is different. 5. Collar is different. 6. Sleeve is shorter.

Riddler

My first is that which with activities one does fill; My second delivers medication, like a pill; My whole is a receptacle where my first stands still; What am I?

Alpha triangle

1 500 in Roman numerals
2 Prosecutor
3 Secondly
4 Kind of trap
5 Touches ground
6 Adrenal and pituitary
7 Hang freely

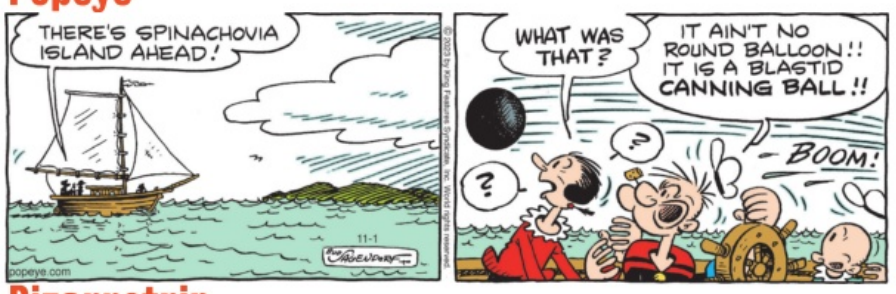


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

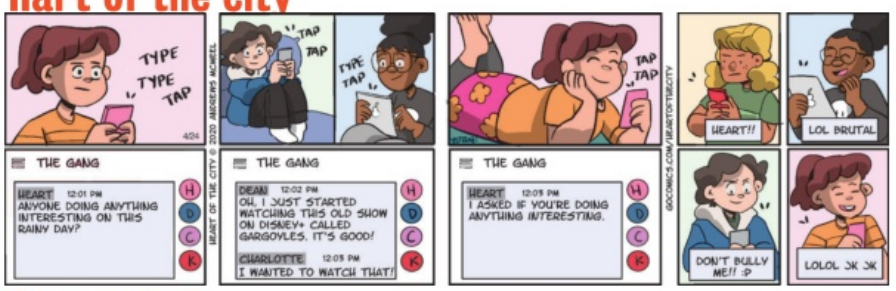
Popeye



Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city


TYPE TYPE TAP
TAP TAP
TYPE TAP
TAP TAP
HEART!!
LOL BRUTAL
THE GANG
HEART 12:01 PM ANYONE DOING ANYTHING INTERESTING ON THIS RAINY DAY?
DEAN 12:02 PM OH, I JUST STARTED WATCHING THIS OLD SHOW ON DISNEY+ CALLED GARGOYLES. IT'S GOOD!
CHARLOTTE 12:03 PM I WANTED TO WATCH THAT!
HEART 12:05 PM I ASKED IF YOU'RE DOING ANYTHING INTERESTING.
DON'T BULLY ME!! :P
LOLOL JK JK

Crankshaft

YOU KNOW, BATTON... WHEN PAM AND I LIVED ON WEST AVENUE, YOUR LANDLADY TOLD US THAT WE HAD MOVED INTO YOUR OLD APARTMENT.
I REMEMBER THAT THERE WERE OUTLINES OF YOUR STRIPS ON THE WALL WHERE YOU HAD TAPED THEM TO SPRAY FIXATIVE ON THEM.
AND YOU LEFT BEHIND A COPY OF THE FIRST ISSUE OF 'SPIDER-MAN.'
ONLY KIDDING... I JUST WANTED TO SEE THE LOOKS ON YOUR FACES!
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, with the help of blessings from elders, you may become confident. Your working efficiency may increase, and you may start new innovations in terms of business and work. You may likely make smart gains after a few investments. Opponents and rivals are now under control. You may help a needy person, which may increase your prestige. You may bring some creative stuff for your house.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, situations are mixed. You may be busy with kids, and you may expect some short trips related to their academics. Couples may have good news in terms of childbirth; you will also enjoy your romantic moments. You may plan to go on an outing with your family or friends as well. Natives on the job may plan for higher education to increase their skill sets.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today may be somehow disappointing; you may be impatient, and you may not be able to focus on your goals. Investments in fixed assets should be postponed for a while. It is advised to take care of your parents' health.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may feel energetic and courageous, and you may be likely to buy some important household items for your home or office. Your inner strength may be helpful in completing your projects before the deadline. Disputes with the siblings are likely to be resolved. There may also be some short trips related to work, which will increase your network.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, time is favourable. You may be able to control your expenditures, so your savings are likely to increase. You may be busy at home; you may buy some artefacts. You may also plan to renovate your office. There is an atmosphere of joy and happiness in the family. Lovebirds are likely to plan to get married. Singles may find a soulmate. Kids will perform well in their academics

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, things are now under control; you may feel some new energy, which may give you confidence. You may likely find a new way, which may tend you towards success at work. Parental business may reach new heights. A chronic illness is likely to be cured. You may also plan for an overseas trip.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may be dull, which may make you upset and impatient. You may be likely to face some health-related issues. It is advised to avoid rush-hour driving and adventure tours. You are advised to keep an eye on hidden enemies and opponents; otherwise, you might be a victim of a conspiracy. You should avoid making any arguments.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today may be good for your professional life. You may become passionate about your work, which may give you mental fatigue. You may not be able to get together in time for family or social get-togethers. Your spouse may support you to maintain domestic harmony. Lovebirds may expect to take important decisions in terms of marriage. Job seekers may find good news in terms of suitable jobs with the help of friends.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you are blessed by the moon, which may make you happy. You may be busy at work, and you will likely increase your network in terms of work. With the help of elders' blessings, you will implement new plans into your work for success in the near future. You may also plan to visit your close relatives or party with friends.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may feel dull, which may make you sensitive and emotional. You may have some health-related issues as well. It is advised to avoid rush-hour driving. You are also advised to keep an eye on hidden enemies and opponents; you might be a victim of a conspiracy. It is advised for lovebirds to keep their patience and avoid making arguments on worthless topics.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may try to analyse yourself and figure out your mistakes. Self-analysis will boost confidence at work. In partnerships, disputed matters may be likely to be resolved. Relationships with the spouse may likely improve. Students may make quick decisions in terms of their career. Singles may find a good match, luckily.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, with the blessings of the moon, you may have happiness around you. You may perform well at work; you may expect promotions. Projects that were stopped will come back on track. Relationships with the spouse may be stronger. Singles may be more likely to find their soulmates. Lovebirds may make plans to convert their relationship into marriage. Job seekers may find a good job.

KIDZONE

Mohammed Affan, 13 Years, SECAB English School

Mohammed Affan, 13 Years, SECAB English School

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SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
45/500=81
= 9/100=81
= 8109/100
=81.09

BULL'S EYE
ball, BIPOLAR, blip,
boll, broil, lair, liar,
lira, opal, oral, pall,
PARBOIL, polar,
rail, roll

FAST FIVE

S	P	R	E	E
U	L	E	M	A
C	O	U	L	D
A	I	L	E	D
P	U	R	I	S

STRIKE OUT

S	L	A	M	S	A	O		E	T	A	L			
L		M		K		N		I		L				
O	B	S	E	S	S		A	D	V	A	N	I		
B		A		E	R	I	E		W		K			
M	A	L	T	E	D		P	S	E	U	D	O		
Y		P	E	P		D		S	U	K		T		
S		S	T	A	I	N	E	D				D		
S		S	E	E		M		R	N	A		E		
U	S	U	R	E	R		A	D	U	L	T	S		
T		S		W	E	A	L	D		A		E		
A	T	R	E	S	T		R	A	B	B	L	E		
T		E		N		I		A		R				
S	E	V	E		E	B	B		I	C	E	D		

QUICK

H	A	R	A	K	I	R	I					P		
O		A		E		E		G		R				
D	U	C	T		R	E	V	E	R	S	E	D		
D		I		M		A		U		A		E		
T	I	V	O	L	I		M	I	M	I	N	G		
N				T	A	P		P						
M	I	X	U	P				N	Y	A	S	A		
		N			S	U	E			T				
A	D	R	I	F	T		S	O	L	E	M	N		
	O		O	R		C		I		A				
U	P	O	N	O	A	T	H		V	E	R	B		
E		S		I		E		E		K				
S		U	N	A	W	A	R	E	S					

MENSA PUZZLE
90-degrees-in-the-shade

QUOTE UNCODE
Don't pay any attention to what they write about you. Just measure it in inches.

RIDDLER
Time capsule

SUDOKU

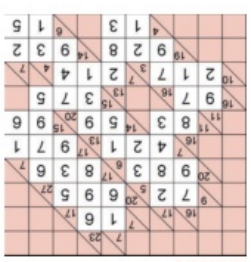
9	6	3	4	7	2	1	5	8
2	1	8	5	9	6	3	7	4
5	4	7	8	1	3	9	6	2
1	8	9	6	2	7	5	4	3
3	5	6	1	4	9	2	8	7
7	2	4	3	5	8	6	9	1
6	9	1	2	8	4	7	3	5
8	3	5	7	6	1	4	2	9
4	7	2	9	3	5	8	1	6

ALPHA TRIANGLE
D, DA, And,
Sand, Lands,
Glands,
Dangles.

GO FIGURE
Easy
3 + 5 + 1 − 3 = 6
Medium
6 × 2 − 2 × 4 = 40
Hard
6 − 3 + 9 − 5 = 7

LOOP

KAKURO



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